

Professor Asa Gray
Cambridge

Amherst Mass 23^d
E Hitchcock 246

Dear Sir,

I send here.

with a specimen of the
wood of the Nyssa exhibit-
ing the difference in di-
rection of the fibres of the
successive layers. The di-
vergence in the present in-
stance is 20° but I have spec-
imens when it is greater.

I also enclose a speci-
men of the Spongy mass
from a pond in Worcester
from which paper is made.
Can you without too much
trouble inform me what
it is?

I am glad to hear of
your proposed improvement
in your botany. That accom-
plished & it will stand decid-
edly above all works on the
subject for our higher semi-
naries of learning.

It may interest you
to learn that we are at
present enjoying a very
delightful season of special
religious interest in our
College - But it leaves me
no time for scientific
matters.

Respectfully & sin-
cerely yours
Edmund Hitchcock